

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A transportation system comprising:

mandatory terminals disposed within a plurality of transportation vehicles which transport an object to be transported from a business connection to a delivery destination configured to transmit current location information of the mandatory terminals to an order receiving server through a line and to receive delivery information, including a location of a business connection in charge of an object to be transported and a location of a delivery destination, from said order receiving server through said line,

a plurality of ordering terminals for placing an order for transportation of the object to be transported configured to transmit order information, including the location of a business connection in charge of said object to be transported and the location of a delivery destination, to the order receiving server through said line, and

the order receiving server configured to receive the order for transportation of said object to be transported and configured to transmit said delivery information to one of said plurality of transportation vehicles closest to the location of a business connection in charge of said object to be transported,

wherein said mandatory terminals include:

transmission means for periodically transmitting the current location information of said mandatory terminals to the order receiving server through the line, and

control means for enabling said transmission means to transmit said current location information only in a desired period; and

means for receiving the delivery information from said order receiving server through said line;

wherein said order receiving server includes:

means for receiving said current location information of the mandatory terminals from each said mandatory terminal through said line to specify current location information for each of said plurality of transportation vehicles,

means for receiving said order information from each of said plurality of ordering terminals through said line to specify the location of a business connection in charge of said object to be transported and the location of a delivery destination,

means for specifying one of the plurality of transportation vehicles having the current location information closest to the location of a business connection in charge of said object to be transported among the current location information of each of said plurality of transportation vehicles as a mandated transportation vehicle, and

means for transmitting said delivery information to a mandatory terminal of the mandated transportation vehicle through said line;

wherein each of said plurality of ordering terminals includes:

means for transmitting, to said order receiving server through said line, transportation start information to the effect that a transportation vehicle specified by said order receiving server as said mandatory transportation vehicle will transport said object to be transported of said customer from the business connection, and

means for transmitting transportation completion information to the effect that said object to be transported is transported to the delivery destination to said order receiving server through said line;

wherein said order receiving server includes:

means for receiving said transportation start information through said line, and

means for receiving said transportation completion information through said line;

wherein each of said order information and said delivery information further include an electronic mail address of said customer;

wherein said order receiving server further includes means for receiving said order information from each of said plurality of ordering terminals through said line to specify an electronic mail address of said customer; and

wherein each mandatory terminal further includes means for transmitting said transportation completion information to said order receiving server through said line and means for transmitting said transportation completion information to a terminal of said customer by means of an electronic mail through said line.

2-10. (canceled).

11. (previously presented): The transportation system as set forth in claim 1, wherein

the location of a business connection in charge of an object to be transported of said customer and/or the location of a delivery destination are in a store with round-the-clock operation.

12. (currently amended): A mandatory terminal of a transportation vehicle for transporting an object to be transported from a business connection to a delivery destination, comprising:

transmission means for transmitting current location information of the mandatory terminal to an order receiving server through a line,

control means for enabling said transmission means to transmit said current location information only in a desired period,

means for receiving delivery information, including a location of the business connection in charge of an object to be transported and a location of the delivery destination, from said order receiving server through said line,

means for transmitting, to said order receiving server through said line, transportation start information to the effect that a transportation vehicle specified by said order receiving server as a mandatory transportation vehicle will transport said object to be transported from the business connection, and

means for transmitting transportation completion information to the effect that the object to be transported of said customer is transported to the delivery destination to said order receiving server through said line;

wherein at least one of said plurality of transportation vehicles is a vehicle mainly for carrying a customer from a boarding place to an alighting place.

13-15. (canceled).

16. (currently amended): An order receiving server for receiving an order for transportation of an object to be transported, comprising:

means for receiving current location information of one's own from each mandatory terminal of a plurality of transportation vehicles through the line to specify the current location information of each of said plurality of transportation vehicles,

means for receiving order information, including a location of a business connection in charge of a customer's object to be transported and a location of a delivery destination, from a plurality of ordering terminals through said line to specify a location of the business connection in charge of the object to be transported of said customer and a location of the delivery destination,

means for specifying a transportation vehicle having current location information of a transportation vehicle closest to a location of the business connection in charge of the object to be transported of said customer among current location information of said plurality of transportation vehicles as a mandatory transportation vehicle,

means for transmitting delivery information, including a location of the business connection in charge of the object to be transported of said customer and a location of the delivery destination, to the mandatory terminal of the transportation vehicle specified as said mandatory transportation vehicle through said line,

means for receiving, through said line, said transportation start information sent from a transportation vehicle specified as said mandatory transportation vehicle to the effect that the transportation vehicle will transport the object to be transported from the business connection, and

means for receiving, through said line, transportation completion information sent from a transportation vehicle specified as said mandatory transportation vehicle to the effect that the object to be transported is transported to the delivery destination;

wherein at least one of said plurality of transportation vehicles is a vehicle mainly for carrying a customer from a boarding place to an alighting place.

17-19. (canceled).

20. (currently amended): A transportation method using a communication line, comprising the steps of:

a first step of transmitting current location information from each mandatory terminal of a plurality of transportation vehicles for directly transporting an object to be transported from a business connection to a delivery destination to an order receiving server through a line only in a desired period,

a second step of receiving said current location information of one's own at said order receiving server from each of said mandatory terminal of said plurality of transportation vehicles through said line to specify said current location information of said plurality of transportation vehicles,

a third step of transmitting order information, including a location of a business connection in charge of a customer's object to be transported and a location of a delivery destination, from an ordering terminal for placing an order for transportation of a customer's object to be transported to said order receiving server through said line,

a fourth step of receiving the order information, including a location of a business connection in charge of an object to be transported of said customer and a location of a delivery destination, at said order receiving server from said ordering terminal through said line to specify a location of the business connection in charge of the object to be transported of said customer and a location of the delivery destination,

a fifth step of specifying a transportation vehicle having current location information of a transportation vehicle closest to the location of the business connection in charge of the object to be transported of said customer among current location information of said plurality of transportation vehicles as a mandatory transportation vehicle, and

a sixth step of transmitting and receiving delivery information, including a location of a business connection in charge of a customer's object to be transported and a location of a delivery destination, from/at said order receiving sever to/from the mandatory terminal of a transportation vehicle specified as said mandatory transportation vehicle through said line,

after said sixth step, a seventh step of transmitting and receiving transportation start information to the effect that the transportation vehicle specified by said order receiving server as said mandatory transportation vehicle will transport the object to be transported of said customer from the business connection from/at said ordering terminal to/from said order receiving server through said line,

after said sixth step, an eighth step of transmitting and receiving transportation completion information to the effect that the object to be transported of said customer is transported to the delivery destination from/at the mandatory terminal of the transportation

vehicle specified by said order receiving server as said mandatory transportation vehicle to/from said order receiving server through said line, wherein

each of said order information and said delivery information further includes information of an electronic mail address of said customer, and which further comprises:

after said third step and before said sixth step, a step of receiving said order information at said order receiving server from said ordering terminal through said line to specify an electronic mail address of said customer, and

a step of transmitting and receiving said transportation completion information from/at the mandatory terminal of the transportation vehicle specified by said order receiving server as said mandatory transportation vehicle to/from a terminal of said customer by an electronic mail through said line, as well as executing said eighth step,

wherein at least one of said plurality of transportation vehicles is a vehicle mainly for carrying a customer from a boarding place to an alighting place.

21-25. (canceled).

26. (original): The transportation method using a communication line as set forth in claim 20, wherein

said plurality of transportation vehicles are transportation vehicles of a plurality of transportation companies.

27. (canceled).

28. (original): The transportation method using a communication line as set forth in claim 20,
wherein

a location of a business connection in charge of an object to be transported of said
customer and/or a location of a delivery destination are in a store with round-the-clock operation.